

# Introduction

This new publication concerning the geopolitical situation and the challenges for security in the region of Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus has been the result of the research within the international research project: “Geopolitical Dilemmas. Poland and Germany and the Processes and Challenges of Europeanisation in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus”, co-ordinated by the Faculty of International and Political Studies of Jagiellonian University and Viadrina European University in Frankfurt (Oder). The realisation of this project was possible thanks to the financial support of the Foundation for Polish-German Co-operation, the Robert Bosch Foundation and the “Bratniak” Foundation, for whom the authors wish to express their gratitude.

The realisation of this project led to the creation of a scientific consortium and research network, whereby academics representing various countries could carry out their research, the results of which have been published in this book. This publication contains papers prepared by both Polish and German authors, as well as by scientists from those states covered by the Eastern Partnership Programme. The studies of these European academics have been enriched by adding the perspective of researchers from the USA and China, whose papers have also been published in this book.

The conflict in Ukraine led to a complete change in the geopolitical situation in Central and Eastern Europe and affected the level of security in the region. The objective of the studies within the consortium was thus the examination of the impact of the Ukrainian conflict on current geopolitical conditions in that part of the world, as well as the level of regional security. The publication presents texts discussing the most significant problems and processes affecting the shape of the deformed geopolitical “Eastern Chessboard” in a world region regarded up until now as stable.

The editors wish to thank the authors for their research within the project and the publication of the results in this volume. Anyone interested in the geopolitical situation and the challenges for regional security in Central and Eastern Europe is invited to read the publication and the publishers hope for a warm reception from readers.

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